

for Jan. 15, 1920 (Akad. Wiss. in Wien), that Karny has recently reported on a collection of Thysanoptera made by Ebner in the Egyptian Sudan in 1914. *Haplothrips jun-corum*, Bagn. (originally described from Oxford), is recorded for the first time from Africa, and five new species are described, of which *Dolichothrips giraffa* and *Gynaikothrips ebneri* will probably prove to be closely allied to, if not identical with, *Dolichothrips jeanneli* and *Gynaikothrips obscuripes*, described herein. It is impossible to say more than this from the brief abstracts of comparisons at my disposal.—R. S. B.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IX.

Galls on *Acacia arabica* caused by *Gynaikothrips obscuripes*, Bagn.

XLII.—Some new African Mammals.

By MARTIN A. C. HINTON.

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1. THE OTTER OF LAKE MUTANDA.

The British Museum is indebted to Captain J. E. Philipps, M.C., for a female otter (*Lutra maculicollis*) which he collected at Lake Mutanda, British Ruanda. Several years ago Mr. Robin Kemp obtained a young male (B.M. no. 11. 12. 3. 528) from the same lake. These specimens, together with a male (B.M. no. 4. 2. 6. 54) from Kazinza, Uganda, collected by Mr. W. G. Doggett, differ from the various subspecies of *maculicollis*, hitherto recognized, by their small size, and especially by their small teeth. They evidently should be regarded as belonging to a distinct subspecies, which may be described as

Lutra maculicollis mutandæ, subsp. n.

Like true *maculicollis* in outward appearance, but size smaller (smallest of the group, so far as is known).

Skull with brain-case a little more depressed, its height in adults equal to 37.4–39 per cent. of the basal length, the corresponding percentage in the other subspecies ranging between 39.7 and 42.7. Teeth small, as shown by the following comparative measurements in millimetres:—

	Basal length.	Width of brain-case.	Height of brain-case.	Interorbital breadth.	Canine to <i>m</i> ¹ .	<i>Pm</i> ¹ and <i>m</i> ¹ together.
<i>Lutra maculicollis mutandæ.</i>						
Uganda. Adult ♂	95·5	52·7	37·2	18·7	30·6	15·5
Lake Mutanda. Juv. ♂	91·5	51·9	38·8	16·2	29·7	15·5
" " Ad. ♀, type.	87±	47·6	32·6	15·7	28·6	14·7
<i>L. m. maculicollis.</i>						
Of six: maximum	97	56·8	41·1	17·9	32·5	18·2
minimum	92	51·8	37·8	15·5	30·6	16·3
<i>L. m. nilotica.</i>						
♂	103	59·2	41·3	20·5	33·7	18·3
♀	96·5	54·7	40·6	18·4	31·5	16·4

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 20. 10. 21. 2. Collected at Lake Mutanda in 1920, and presented to the British Museum by Captain J. E. Philipps, M.C.

Hab. British Ruanda, ranging eastwards into Uganda.

2. THE SPECIES OF *URANOMYS* INHABITING NYASALAND.

Among some mammals collected by Dr. J. M. Gericke in the extreme north-western portion of Nyasaland, which have been sent to us by Dr. Peringuey, of the South African Museum, for identification, are two specimens of the rare genus *Uranomys*. As was to be expected, these proved to belong to a new species, no member of the genus having been recorded hitherto from the country. After the description given below was written we received a specimen collected by Mr. R. C. Wood in Southern Nyasaland, and this in turn proves to be distinct from its ally in the north-west.

Uranomys woodi, sp. n.

A large species, most like *U. ruddi* in appearance, but rather lighter in colour.

Size slightly larger than in *ruddi*, but tail considerably and hind foot slightly shorter. Fur long and crisp as usual; scales of tail 13 in 10 mm.

General colour of upper parts near olive-brown, the top of the head and mid-dorsal region lacking the dusky suffusion seen in *ruddi*, brightening on flanks to a clear buffy brown. Underparts dirty white, with the *Lophuromys*-like appearance characteristic of all the species of the genus. Mammaræ 3—3=12.

Skull most like that of *ruddi*, but distinctly larger. Interorbital region apparently broader, the temporal ridges being straight instead of curved and less abruptly convergent anteriorly. Zygomatic plate a little wider, the upper part of its anterior border thrown rather more boldly forwards.

Measurements of type taken in flesh by collector (those of *ruddi* added in parentheses):—Head and body 134 (118) mm.; tail 69 (77); hind foot 18·3 (19); ear 17·5 (15).

Skull-measurements (those of *ruddi* in parentheses): condylo-basal length 30·1 (28·7); occipito-nasal length 27 (25·1); zygomatic breadth 15·8 (15·4); interorbital constriction 5·3 (5·1); cranial width 12·2 (12·6); median occipital depth 7·8 (8·1); condyle to *m.*³ 14·1 (13·7); anterior palatal foramina 7·5 (7·7); nasals 10·6×3·3 (10×3·3); dental length 16·2 (15·6); cheek-tooth on crowns 5 (4·3).

Hab. S. Nyasaland.

Type. An old female, with cheek-teeth greatly worn. B.M. no. 21. 2. 16. 1. Original number 280. Collected Oct. 27, 1917, at Cholo, Nyasaland (altitude 2700'), by Mr. Rodney C. Wood. Caught "in hole of mole-rat on wooded hills."

I have great pleasure in naming this interesting species in honour of Mr. R. C. Wood, who has made a very beautiful collection of the small mammals of Nyasaland. *U. woodi* is quite closely related to *U. ruddi*, the original species described by Dollman from Mount Elgon. It is, however, clearly differentiated from *ruddi* by its shorter tail, lighter colour, and the peculiar form of the anterior part of the brain-case. From the species next described it is widely different.

Mr. Wood deserves credit for first observing the mammary formula, not hitherto determined in this genus; his count of 3—3=12 is confirmed by the skin.

Uranomys tenebrosus, sp. n.

An unusually dark species, with large cheek-teeth.

Fur long, dense and crisp as in other species; general appearance much like that of a *Lophuromys*. Colour of upper surface very dark, about "olivaceous black" of Ridgway

along mid-dorsum, peppered by the bright orange-buff sub-terminal bands of the hairs towards the flanks. On the lower flanks the dusky hair-tips become shorter and the bright buff colour more conspicuous. Under surface washed with pinkish buff. Ears dusky. Hands and feet dirty white. Tail, as in *U. oweni*, rather finely scaled, 15 scales in a distance of 10 mm., instead of 12 to 13 scales in 10 mm., as in *ruddi*, *foxi*, and *woodi*.

Skull normal, considerably smaller than that of *woodi* and lacking the peculiarities in form of the interorbital region seen in the latter species; not essentially different from that of the W.-African *oweni* in form. Cheek-teeth very large, relatively larger than in any species previously described, their absolute size almost as great as in the much larger species *U. woodi* and considerably greater than in *ruddi*. The molar pattern of this genus has not been noted hitherto, because the teeth in most of the few specimens described have been too far worn to make out the cusps. But the two specimens upon which the present species is based and those from which Mr. Thomas described *U. oweni* show that the molar structure in this genus is essentially as in *Acomys*.

No measurements were taken in the flesh by the collector, but after relaxing the hind feet of the skins they were found to measure 16.5 mm.

Skull-measurements of type (and of second specimen in parentheses): condylo-basal length 25.9 (26); occipito-nasal length 23.6 (23.6); zygomatic breadth 13.6 (13.8); interorbital constriction 4.9 (4.8); cranial width 11.1 (11.8); median occipital depth 7.5 (7.5); condyle to *m.*³ 11.5 (12.1); anterior palatal foramina 7.1 (7.1); nasals 8.7 × 2.8 (8.8 × 3); dental length 14.5 (14.4); cheek-teeth on crowns 4.8 (4.8).

Type. An adult. B.M. no. 21. 2. 17. 1. Original number 15791. Collected by Dr. Gericke at N'sana, N.W. Nyasaland; presented to the British Museum by the South African Museum, Cape Town. One other specimen (S.A. Museum no. 15792) obtained by Dr. Gericke at Kachenzi, N.W. Nyasaland, also examined.

Hab. N.W. Nyasaland.

This species differs widely from *U. woodi*, the species inhabiting S. Nyasaland, and seems to be most nearly related to *U. oweni* described from French Guinea. Its exceptionally dark colour and large cheek-teeth are its chief peculiarities. I am much indebted to Dr. Peringuey for permitting me to describe so interesting an animal.

Before quitting the subject of *Uranomys*, I should like to add that independently I have come to much the same conclusion as to the affinities of the genus as did Mr. Thomas*.

* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) vi. p. 432 (1910).

Palate, structure of brain-case, temporal ridges, and molar forms prove that *Uranomys* is more closely allied to *Acomys* than to any other Murine genus. The crispness of the fur suggests the first stage towards the development of the spines so characteristic of the pelage of normal species of *Acomys*. But the marked straightening or pro-odonty of the incisors in *Uranomys* is a specialization in a direction unknown within the genus *Acomys*. The high mammary formula $3-3=12$, instead of $1-2=6$ as in *Acomys*, is also a well-marked generic peculiarity.

3. A NEW BLES MOL FROM ANGOLA.

The large and valuable donation of Angolan mammals, which the Museum owes to the enterprise and generosity of Mr. Gilbert Blaine, includes a very interesting blesmol. This specimen, obtained in Central Angola by Mr. Blaine, represents a species hitherto unknown. While offering a general resemblance to *Cryptomys mechowii*, Peters, the new animal differs from *mechowii* and from all other species yet described by its exceptionally large size. It may be called, in honour of its discoverer,

Cryptomys blainei, sp. n.

Like *C. mechowii* externally, but far larger.

Size largest of the genus, the hind-foot measurement 51 mm. instead of about 40, and the greatest skull-length 64 instead of 58.

Colour not distinguishable from that of *C. mechowii* (as represented by practically toptotypical specimens from Duque de Braganca), much greyer and less yellow than in *ansorgei*. As in other species, there are two large patches of deeply discoloured fur—one on each side of the chin and throat below the mandible.

Skull distinguished from those of all other species by its great size, and the unusually acute angle (with reference to the median, sagittal, vertical plane of the skull) at which the cheek-teeth are set in the maxilla. The interorbital region and posterior part of the nasals are badly injured in the type, but, so far as one can judge, the postorbital region resembles that of *mechowii*, lacking the curious inflation so characteristic of *ansorgei* and *mellandi*. The muzzle is about intermediate in form between that of *ansorgei* and that of *mellandi*; in *ansorgei* the diastema is equal in length to the distance between the condyle and the posterior cheek-tooth, in *blainei* and *mechowii* it is shorter, equal to a little less than the

distance between the condyle and the base of the upper incisor, while in *mellandi* it is still shorter, equal to no more than the distance between the condyle and the posterior edge of the postdental palate. Hinder edges of anterior palatal foramina distinctly in advance of tooth-rows, the latter being parallel to each other, *blainei* in both respects resembling *ansorgei*. In *mellandi* the tooth-rows are divergent anteriorly, while in *mehowi* they are divergent posteriorly.

Cheek-teeth remarkable only for their large size, the anterior three above occupying as great a length as the whole tooth-row in other species of the group.

Skull-measurements in millimetres.

	<i>blainei</i> , type.	<i>mehowi</i> .		<i>ansorgei</i> .	
		$\frac{4}{4} \frac{9}{130}$ ♀.	$\frac{4}{4} \frac{9}{126}$ ♂.	$\frac{13}{11} \frac{5}{3}$	$\frac{5}{5} \frac{9}{74}$
Condyle-basal length	64.3	52	53.5	54.7	58
Occipito-nasal length	57.9	48	47.7	..	53.7
Zygomatic breadth	47.9	38.1	39.5	38.8	43.4
Occipital width	29.5	25.8	25	25.8	27.5
" depth (median)	18.4	16	16.2	..	18
Condyle to <i>m</i> . ³	25.7	21	21.7	22.4	22.5
Diastema	21.3	17.8	17.8	17.3	21.6
Cheek-teeth (alveolar).....	12.4	9	9.5	9.8	9.3
" (at grinding surface).	10.6	8.5	9	9	8.4±

Dimensions of type (measured in the flesh) :—

Head and body 251 mm. ; tail 27 ; hind foot 51.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 20. 4. 27. 1. Original number 2. Collected at Chisongwe, Luando River (altitude 4000'), Nov. 14, 1919, and presented to the British Museum by Mr. Gilbert Blaine.

Hab. Central Angola.

XLIII.—Seven new Species of Pselliophora (Diptera, Tipulidæ). By F. W. EDWARDS.

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THE types of the species described below are in the British Museum, except that of *P. reversa*, which is in the Oxford Museum.